■ METRO/A17
4 Waray-Waray kidnap gang members, including leader, killed in shootout

■ SPORTS/A21
Basketball sec-gen Graham Lim arrested, detained as illegal alien

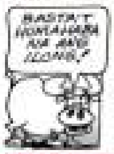
■ NEWS/A2
Lacson, 3 opposition solons charge Garci with faking public documents, perjury

■ WORLD/A20
Moderate lawmaker is South Korea's first woman prime minister

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Saturday, March 25, 2006 ★★ 10 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 107 P18

High court rules lying basis for annulment of marriage



By Armand Nocum

THE FOLLOWING ARE grounds for annulment:
- One or both spouses are underage.
- One or both spouses are gay.
- One spouse has a habit of lying.

HIGH COURT/A6

COA confirms Marcos money used in fertilizer scam

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT HAS FOUND THAT part of the P130 million in recovered Marcos wealth intended for the government's controversial farm inputs program was used to buy fertilizer overpriced by a total of P42.4 million, Senate President Franklin Drilon said yesterday.

Drilon said preliminary results of the COA's

COA/A9

Bernas: They are desperate

People's initiative faces legal obstacles

By Norman Bordadora, Christine O. Avendaño and TJ Burgonio, PDI Central Luzon, Northern Luzon Bureaus

A TOP CONSTITUTIONALIST, FR. JOAQUIN Bernas, said yesterday proponents of Charter change through a people's initiative were "probably desperate" in insisting on it despite serious constitutional and legal questions in its way.

"First, you need an enabling law. And even if there was, you can only use people's initiative to make specific changes to the Constitution," Bernas, one of the framers of the 1987 Charter, told the Inquirer.

Chuckling, Bernas said: "I don't want to speculate.... They're probably desperate."

Bernas has said in various fora that a people's initiative may only be used to change specific provisions in the Constitution. A revision of the Constitution itself, he said, would have to be done through a constituent assembly

BERNAS/A13

'GMA rating still down but a little less bad'

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO HAS suffered a negative net satisfaction rating for the seventh quarter in a row, according to the Social Weather Stations.

But while still negative in the March 2006 survey, Ms Arroyo's new rating "is a little less bad than in December 2005," SWS said in a statement yesterday.

Her net satisfaction rating also improved among the masa, or the Class E sector, although it remained in the negative territory, the polling outfit said.

It said survey fieldwork was carried out after the presidentially proclaimed state of

GMA RATING/A13



THE RED HAT rests snugly on the head of Archbishop of Manila Gaudencio Rosales after he receives it from Pope Benedict XVI at the consistory on Friday at St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. Rosales was one of 15 new cardinals from around the world.

Palace: To kill GMA at PMA real threat



BAND OF BROTHERS, none of them twins. Graduating today with the PMA Class of 2006 are (from left) brothers Joseph Orland and Michael Gotong; Cesar and Jomar Cañazares and Randy and Ramel Sotero.

By Dona Pazzibugan and Christine O. Avendaño

WHO DOES ONE BELIEVE?

Malacañang yesterday said the threat to assassinate President Macapagal-Arroyo, possibly when she attends the Philippine Military Academy graduation exercises today, is real.

The Armed Forces Public Information Unit, on the other hand, said the military has not received any specific threat.

Whatever is the case, military forces were on a nationwide red alert on the eve of the PMA commencement exercises in Baguio City.

Plans for Ms Arroyo's security were stepped up as officials said they were not taking chances in the wake of the foiled Feb. 24 plot by elite troops to withdraw support from their Commander in Chief.

AFP PIO chief Col. Tristan Kison said the security preparations were prompted by the so-called "Oplan Hunkle"—a supposed plan by

PALACE/A6

Call him Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales

MANILA ARCHBISHOP GAUDENCIO BORBON Rosales yesterday became a member of the elite College of Cardinals, joining 14 others from around the world, including two other Asians, as the new "princes" of the Church who will be advisers to Pope Benedict XVI and choose his successor.

From this point on, the soft-spoken Rosales, 73, will have the title "Cardinal" between his first and last names.

He is now the Philippines' only active cardinal, Ricardo Cardinal Vidal having retired last February. Jose Cardinal Sanchez, 86, retired in 1996 although he is still based in the Roman Curia where he had served as Prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy.

Rosales, who heads Asia's biggest diocese, the Metropolitan See of Manila, identified "the evangelization of Asia" as "the challenge of our times."

He told the Catholic Asianews agency it was thus significant that the Pope had chosen to elevate himself and two other Asians—Archbishop Nicholas Cheong Jin-suk of Seoul and Hong Kong Bishop Joseph Zen, an outspoken campaigner for religious freedom and critic of China.

He told AP Television News that the decision by Benedict to name three new Asian cardinals showed that Asia was important to the Church, home to two-thirds of the world's population

CALL/A8

Three sets of brothers among 324 graduates

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

FORT DEL PILAR, BAGUIO City—The television mini series "Band of Brothers" takes on a literal meaning when the Philippine Military Academy Masidlak Class of 2006 graduates today.

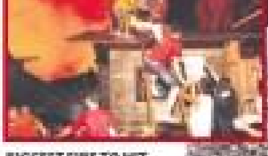
The class has three pairs of brothers graduating today: Cadets First Class Randy and Ramel Sotero of La Trinidad, Benguet; Joseph Orland and Michael Gotong, also of La Trinidad; and Cesar and Jomar Cañazares of Tuguegarao City.

None of them are twins.

Romil Sotero, who ranked third in the 324-member class, and Michael Gotong, who ranked 80th, are the eldest, having been born in 1982. Joseph Orland Gotong and Jomar Cañazares were born in 1983, while Randy Sotero

THREE/A6







BIGGEST FIRE TO HIT Zamboanga City. An unattended lighted candle morphed into a conflagration Thursday razing about 1,500 houses on a 5-hectare area in Barangay Canino Nuevo. The remains to be seen (right) look like the ruins of an ancient civilization. (Story on Page A6)

RP battle against top killer TB a success

By Veit Contreras and Christian V. Esguerra

THE PHILIPPINES HAS MADE "substantial progress" in the battle against tuberculosis, a poverty-related killer disease that claims two million lives worldwide, according to local and foreign experts who marked World TB Day yesterday.

The number of new TB cases detected nationwide each year dropped to 131 cases per 100,000 Filipinos in 2005, from 240 in 1997, according to officials of the Stop TB Partnership, a network under the auspices of the World Health Organization.

Dr. Giorgio Bonizzo, an Italian TB specialist and member of the STBP executive committee, led the Philippine launch of the

RP BATTLE/A6

Religious set guidelines for victims of repression

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE COUNTRY'S INFLUENTIAL religious congregations are ready to provide help for the victims of what they described as the "repressive measures" under the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines (AMRSP) on Thursday began circulating a set of guidelines for its members at this time of unresolved political crisis.

The AMRSP has more than 360 congregations including the Jesuits, Franciscans, Dominicans, Benedictines, Augustinians and Lasallian Brothers.

The AMRSP played a crucial role during the years of the Marcos dictatorship when it was founded. That time, it opened the doors of its seminaries and convents to provide safe haven to victims of political repression.

The AMRSP agreed to reactivate this role during a

RELIGIOUS/A6

Garci charged for fake passport

By DJ Yap and Michael Lim Ubac

VIRGILIO GARCILLANO WAS YESTERDAY ACCUSED of faking his passport and perjuring himself during the House inquiry into the "Hello Garci" election fraud scandal.

[illegible]

Inescapable conclusion

[illegible]

Disbarment

[illegible]

Senate, too

[illegible]

Can't use Ping's word against Erap, says Digs

[illegible]

SC scolds petitioners vs EO 464

By Armand N. Nocum

[illegible]

Now, Palace wants Senate to act fast on 2006 budget

PNP files raps against 4 officers



ADVISORY

8 Waves Waterpark and Hotel will be closed to the public for a corporate function on March 25 and April 1. For further details regarding the waterpark's availability, please visit www.8waveswaterpark.com.ph



DENR watching mines for rain-induced disasters

GMA lunches with taipans

Call him Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales

Not easy

Well-wishers

Europe has most cardinals

Church's universality

Religious set guidelines for victims of repression

Concern for victims

Chilling atmosphere

Phone nos. of 11 lawyers

Overcome fear

Look for creative ways

RP making 'substantial progress' in war vs TB

Control program

10% are children

The Daily Gospel

Supreme Court Doctrines

At it again, Gonzalez lashes out at Subic rape victim's ma



GONZALEZ



Palace: To kill GMA at PMA real threat



Enough forces

Threats accepted

Beyond normal

1,000 troops

No Scout Ranger

PNP ready





Three sets of brothers among 324 graduates

Record of brotherhood

Sibling rivalry

Thermodynamics

High court rules lying basis for annulment of marriage

Persistent lying

Lovers lie

COA confirms Marcos money …

From page A1

[illegible]

Padded costs

[illegible]

Delayed distribution

[illegible]

No clear basis

[illegible]

Request, purchase same date

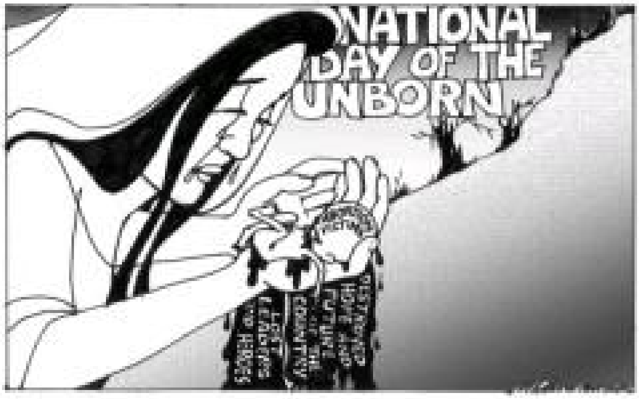
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 21 No. 107

OPINION



Their pound of pork

EDITORIAL

WITH ALMOST A QUARTER OF THE YEAR already gone, the House of Representatives finally approved on second reading last Thursday the national government budget for 2006. House leaders lost no time in giving themselves a pat on the back, with Speaker Jose de Venecia proudly declaring that, notwithstanding their differences, the members of the House "of all colors and stripes summoned the political will and courage" to pass the budget.

We don't know whether to laugh or cry over De Venecia's attempt to solicit public approbation for what they have done. The kindest thing that can be said about the House vote is that it is an improvement on last year's failure to pass the 2005 budget measure. When Congress failed to enact the appropriations measure, it abdicated one of its key responsibilities which is to determine how much the national government will spend and on what. It's called the power of the purse, which the members of Congress are quick to assert for their convenience but which they have surrendered to the executive branch. They surrendered it last year when they did not work on the budget measure, and they surrendered it again this time by adopting wholesale the spending bill proposed by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

What makes the surrender even more galling is that they are not even ashamed to admit it. Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, chair of the committee on appropriations, said the trillion-peso budget was approved by the House "as is, where is, as President Arroyo submitted, [down] to the last comma, except for grammatical slips." And it took them all of seven months to do the editing! And at a cost of how many hundred millions or billions of pesos? If lapses in grammar—not in judgment—are now the only lookout of congressmen when it comes to the budget, why don't they just send the bill to the English department of any reputable university or a newspaper office? They can do a much better job and at an infinitely much lower cost.

But surely Salceda exaggerates. What Ms Arroyo has proposed is a spending bill that tops the trillion-peso mark for the first time in history at P1.05 trillion. And unless there has been a mass conversion to clean living in the House, congressmen are not likely to deliver all that money to Malacañang neatly wrapped without exacting their pound of pork.

Which was exactly what the House did. Majority Floor Leader Prospero Nograles said each congressman will now get P70 million as his priority development assistance fund, instead of the P40 million he received last year. That will raise the pork barrel allocation for House members alone from last year's P8.4 billion to P16.5 billion this year.

It's a hefty price for giving Malacañang all it wants, but then it's the taxpayers who are paying. And the lawmakers believe they are entitled to it, after passing several revenue measures last year. "The executive branch will have billions in additional revenue due to EVAT and other new tax measures," Nograles noted. "What will they do with all that money?"

There were 2.8 million Filipinos looking for jobs in January but who couldn't find employment. Almost one out of every five Filipinos complained that they had gone hungry at least once during the last quarter of last year, according to a Social Weather Stations survey. There are hundreds of thousands of young boys and girls who have either left school or who attend classes without books to read. The government is P3.89 trillion in debt—the main reason the Arroyo administration asked Congress to pass new tax measures. And the lawmaker whose main task is to rally the House majority behind the administration's legislative agenda asks what the government will do with the money?

There are a million and one other problems that require money to solve, but Nograles cannot see them. There are many ways to put taxpayers' money to productive use, and he cannot find them. But how can he when, like most if not all of his colleagues in the House, all he looks for are the slabs of pork in the budget that he can take to his district?

The government has barely begun collecting the new taxes, and already congressmen are dividing a substantial part of government income among themselves. But Malacañang doesn't mind because it is getting the lion's share.

Decisions, decisions

SEPARATE OPINION
Isagani A. Cruz

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO THE SUPREME Court, I venture the suggestion that it follow the rule of first things first in the decision of the cases now presumably ongoing in doubt. I refer particularly to the petitions against President Macapagal-Arroyo's Executive Order No. 464 and Proclamation No. 1017 which have been hanging fire for quite a while now and causing the nation much anxiety and agitation.

The challenge to EO No. 464 was filed as early as last October but it is still undecided now despite the adverse effect of the prohibition on the investigations being conducted by Congress on several claimed anomalies in the executive department. Among these are the questionable contract with the Venable law firm and the disposition of the P728-million fertilizer fund allegedly for GMA's election campaign.

The Senate held National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales in contempt for his refusal to identify the persons, suspected as aliens, who had paid the retainer consisting of millions of pesos to the American lawyers who had agreed, among other odd undertakings, to work for financial aid from the US Congress for the revision of the Philippine Constitution. His detention was lifted when he was hospitalized for a supposed delicate heart condition, but he was soon back in the Cabinet attending the Senate in the safety of EO No. 464. The Senate has not officially reacted and is apparently reluctant to exercise its contempt powers again pending the decision of the Supreme Court on the controversial order.

Undersecretary Jocelyn Bolante was summoned by the Senate for questioning about the release of the fertilizer fund, but he also sought sanctuary in EO No. 464 and has so far succeeded in avoiding the legislative inquiry. He is now somewhere in the United States where he is reportedly attending to money business in preference to his official duties in our own government. Incidentally, is he receiving official pay and travel allowances as well, while he is supposed to be a fugitive from the Senate [illegible]?

Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 was issued on Feb. 23 and was immediately challenged before the Supreme Court as a de facto imposition of martial law without the strict safeguards embodied in Art. VII, Sec. 18 of the Constitution. The President withdrew the proclamation a week later, saying that the "rebel" against her had been suppressed but at the same time threatened to impose the same again in her discretion. In oral arguments heard last March 6, the government submitted that the issue had become moot and academic while the petitioners asked for a categorical judgment on the constitutionality of the perceived measure.

I imagine that considering the length of the debate that lasted into the night, the members of the highest tribunal have been sufficiently enlightened about the merits of the case and should now be able to arrive at an informed decision. But it seems they are still deliberating on whether to uphold or annul GMA. The latest report is that the parties have not yet submitted their required memoranda and that they have asked for the usual extension of time to do so. If the last pleadings are finally filed, the justices will have no less than 24 months to come to a decision as required (or permitted) by the Constitution.

The same observations are made regarding the petitions against EO No. 464, on which oral arguments were heard only on Feb. 21, when the parties were also required to submit the usual memoranda and were given the extension they requested to repeat their earlier already-belabored arguments. The two-year constitutional deadline will also give the justices sufficient time to consider their juristic gifts to resolve the challenge to the right, if any, of the President of the Philippines to limit the power of legislative investigation. But I hope they will not use up all that period and make up their minds only in 2008.

I believe the Supreme Court, and all lower courts that follow its example, can prevent the needless delay in their administration of justice by—in the least of the necessary remedies—refusing to grant motions for more time to submit the required pleadings and to declare the laggards in default for their failure to do so. The reason why lawyers move indefinitely on their cases is the leniency of the courts, including and especially the Supreme Court, in granting such motions, often automatically. That is why cases stagnate—nay, deteriorate and putrefy—to the prejudice of substantive and procedural due justice that, ironically, is the justification given for such interminable procrastination.

The Supreme Court has waited long enough in deciding the constitutional challenge to President Arroyo's Executive Order No. 464 and Proclamation No. 1017. The people are still waiting for its long-pending verdict and for the justices to stand up and be counted.

Why people are not out on the streets

GET REAL
Solita Collas-Monsod

FOR THE OPPOSITION MEMBERS WHO crow over the latest Pulse Asia survey—which shows 43 percent of Filipinos think that ousting President Macapagal-Arroyo is the best thing that can happen to the country (take note: the same survey reveals that 81 percent of Filipinos think that ousting GMA is the worst thing that can happen to us.

How is this? Does this imply that Filipinos can't make up their mind on GMA and that the survey can't be relied upon?

As mentioned in last week's column, the survey respondents were asked which of 10 political scenarios, presented to them in a list, constituted the most beneficial—the one that would best serve the national interest. Multiple answers were not allowed.

Five of the scenarios had to do with GMA's resignation and various possible aftermaths: (1) special presidential election; (2) VP De Castro taking over; (3) the VP resigning and the Senate president taking over until the holding of special elections; (4) a temporary group or "junta" taking over to prepare for elections to choose a new president or prime minister; and (5) the VP taking over temporarily while preparing for a new government under a new Constitution.

Two of the scenarios had to do with coups after which: (6) the military and the police forces decide which group of politicians govern; and (7) the military and the police themselves directly wield political power.

One scenario had (8) a foreign government getting involved and installing its power in Filipino affairs.

The last two scenarios had to do with the Arroyo administration staying in power: (9) until it completes its mandate under the Constitution; and (10) until the Constitution is changed and a parliamentary government takes over before 2010.

The 43 percent figure (representing those who believe that GMA's ouster is the best scenario) was obtained by adding up the respondents who chose any one of the first eight scenarios—resignation, coup, foreign intervention. (Although the inclusion of foreign intervention in an anti-GMA scenario is puzzling—isn't it possible that big brother might want to keep GMA?)

Next, the respondents were presented with the same 10 scenarios, but this time they were asked to choose the scenario they considered the worst, that is, the most inimical to the national interest. The percentage of respondents who chose one of the same first eight scenarios added up to 81 percent. And this explains our seemingly paradoxical findings—that 43 percent of Filipinos think ousting GMA is the best thing that can happen to the Philippines, while a greater majority (81 percent) think that ousting GMA is the worst thing that can happen to the country.

Does this mean that the survey results are not to be relied on? The answer is "No." There is nothing wrong with Pulse Asia's survey methodology—questions were put neatly. It used a multi-stage probability sample with a 3-percent margin of error either way on the national level at the 95 percent confidence level, i.e., if 40 percent of the respondents think that coups are the worst possible scenarios, that means that 95 percent of the time, the true percentage of respondents would be between 37 percent and 43 percent.

If there is any fault on my part, it would be that (a) lumping together the results of the various ouster scenarios implies a homogeneity in the responses that is not there—which is why one is confronted with seemingly paradoxical results; and that (b) if Pulse Asia made the observation that 43 percent of Filipinos thought that the eight ouster scenarios were the best, it should have also pointed out that 81 percent of Filipinos thought that those eight ouster scenarios were the worst.

Does this mean that Filipinos are fickle? Again, the answer is "No." It merely shows that one man's meat can be another man's poison. Fifty-nine percent of Filipinos may want her to resign, but they are divided as to the second part of the proposition—as the post-GMA scenarios. One who thinks that resignation followed by special elections is ideal, may also think that resignation followed by takeover of the junta is worst. Or, one who thinks that Ms Arroyo should resign may have a violent objection to her replacement by coup.

Which is what the survey results show: 30 percent of Filipinos think any of the five resignation scenarios is best, 4 percent think the two coup scenarios are best, and 9 percent think that foreign intervention is best—for a total of 43 percent. On the other hand, 28 percent of Filipinos think resignation is worst, 40 percent think coups are worst, and 12 percent think that foreign intervention is worst—for a total of 81 percent. See why adding up the various scenarios can be counter-productive?

The survey results also provide an explanation to the question of Amando Doronila: If 63 percent of Filipinos want GMA out, why aren't they out on the streets? Because, first, they are hopelessly divided on what the post-GMA scenario should be (the average response for each scenario was less than 8 percent, with a high of 16 percent and a low of 1 percent, plus or minus the margin of error), and they may not want to go out unless the composition of rebels is their favored scenario. The second reason is that considering the military as part of an ouster attempt is the kiss of death for popular support—while 13 percent of Filipinos think that Ms Arroyo continuing in office is the pits, more than double (40 percent) think that military coups carry that distinction.

Yet leaders of the anti-Gloria movement make no secret of their courting the military, and they are upset that people aren't rallying around them. Duh!

Formidable adversaries

Political Tidbits



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Garci and other fakes

At Large



Rina Jimenez-David

Latin America's leftist mirage

World View



Julio Maria Sanguinetti

Weeping for the living

Young Blood

Ala Paredes

Notice to Youngblood contributors

They Said

Armed march

Are the consumers of Meralco double-billed for transmission?

LETTERS

Tell it to the Marines

Reusable cloth bags now

Cause of anarchic traffic in Pasay still operating

Contrasting styles, contrasting views

The Philippine President's power in times of war

All dictatorships come to an end

Bernas: Proponents of Cha-cha probably desperate



THE "USUAL SUSPECTS"

Very Marcosian

Gov't tactician

P1,000 for signatures

Denial

P50 short

Puno has no idea about payoffs

'GMA rating still down but a little less bad'

Dissatisfaction throughout

1,200 respondents

Middle, upper classes

INQUIRER Visayas

It's doctor's turn to help foundation

A YOUNG NEGRENSE DOCTOR HAS COMMITTED herself to devote time for medical missions to help sugar farm workers and their families because a few years back, she, too, was given a break that changed the course of her life.



DR. ROCHELLE Calleja attends to the children of sugar farm workers in a medical mission organized by the Sugar Industry Foundation Inc.

The letter

Dreams come true

An erotic sonnet a day in Iloilo tabloid gets mixed reviews

EVERYDAY SINCE FEBRUARY, A HILIGAYNON tabloid, Hublas nga Kamatuoran (Naked Truth), publishes an erotic sonnet, a move that has earned it mixed reviews and more readers.

Sonnets

XXIV

Breaking conventions

Plantations drying up Davao City water sources

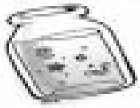
[illegible]

Roundup

3 workers buried alive

[illegible]

Contaminated water



[illegible]

Image appears on tree



[illegible]

Maria Vitug; 77

[illegible]

'Richer' ARMM soon



[illegible]



TAG

[illegible]

Troops to guard road projects, says Army general

[illegible]

NPA spokesman offers refuge to Honasan

[illegible]



ROSAL



HONASAN

Closed mining firm leaves behind ₱260M in taxes, back wages

[illegible]

Across the NATION

MEGALOTTO 6/45 ₱16,636,100.40

Sack DENR execs, President asked

LUCENA CITY—A LEGISLATOR and a Catholic bishop led multi-sectoral groups in northern Quezon in urging President Macapagal-Arroyo to replace top environment officials in the Southern Tagalog region and Quezon province due to alleged continuous illegal logging in the Sierra Madre mountain ranges.

[illegible]



DINE IN

[illegible]

Filipino fishermen held in Vietnam

[illegible]

Zambo fire destroys hundreds of homes

[illegible]

Lack of fish threatens Pangasinan 'buro' trade

[illegible]



[illegible]

A plus METRO

Editor Esther G. Dipasupil

4 kidnap gang suspects killed

Group under surveillance

P100,000 bounty

Kidnap cases up this year

What's Inside

Is Ping Lacson Erap's friend or foe?

ON TARGET



Ramon Tulfo

Makati cops see green in new HQ

By Tarra V. Quismundo

Mood change

Cleanser

Oil overflow revives talks on depot relocation

By Tina G. Santos and Margaux C. Ortiz



CHILDREN who live near the Pandacan oil depot call for its closure after gas overflowed from a storage tank Thursday, causing residents to panic.

Business angle eyed in Umale assassination

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Very petty

Ulterior motives

METROBRIEFS

Protester sues cops

No segregation, no collection policy



Mandaluyong lights up

Bank robbers shot dead



MUNTINLUPA'S "ULTIMATE 10"

Violence hits Paris anew as gov't offers talks



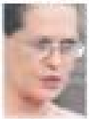
FRENCH President Jacques Chirac leaving EU summit in a huff

Chirac walks out of EU, makes language an issue

WORLDBRIEFS

Polar melting worse than feared

Gandhi quits parliament



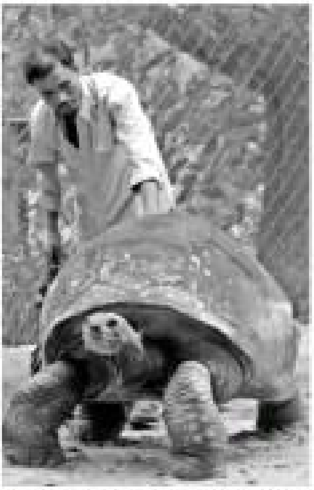
GANDHI

Rumsfeld not stepping down



RUMSFELD

Tortoise, believed to be 250 years old, dies in zoo



ADDWAITA, a giant Aldabra tortoise believed to be the world's oldest surviving tortoise, in June 29, 2005 photo.

The WORLD

Western hostages rescued in Baghdad

BAGHDAD—BRITISH-LED FORCES RESCUED three Christian peace activists from captivity on Thursday after finding them tied up in a house in western Baghdad, two weeks after their American colleague was tortured and killed.

South Korea gets first woman prime minister


HAN

Thaksin-founded mobile firm hurting from boycott


THAKSIN

SPORTS

BAP sec gen arrested, detained

Lim to be deported to Taiwan as soon as agencies clear him of pending cases

MONTHS AFTER HE WAS ORDERED EXPELLED FROM THE country, Basketball Association of the Philippines secretary general Graham Lim was arrested yesterday in his Manila office by Bureau of Immigration agents who had been staking out the area.



Restraining order

Lim says POC behind his arrest

Focus on Magnolia, Viloria in PBL opener

Aces run Pals' defense through the shredder

S'pore squad vying in DHL golf

Oliva-Meroy pair tops Jaguar Land Rover invt'l

Scooters strike back

How Monico kept us all spellbound

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

Lim says his arrest

Aces run Pals' defen

POC behind t, detention

se through the shedder

RP captures gold in world muay tilt





SPORTS WATCH

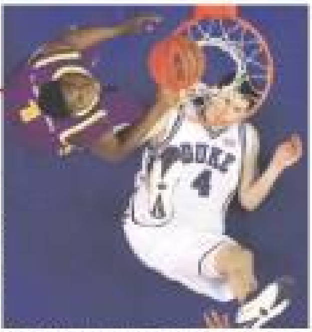
LSGH hoops camp slated

LPC cockfest finals today

Jobo 3-cock tilt Monday

BY TOP CHOICE

SPORTS



LSU's Tasmin Mitchell (left) and JJ Redick and Duke tumbling down...

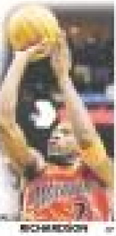
PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Love shares dinner, lead

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida—Davis Love III steered clear of trouble on the TPC at Sawgrass with seven birdies inside 10 feet for a 7-under 65 Thursday, earning him a share of the first-round lead at the Players Championship with dinner partner Jim Furyk.

Tigers give Redick, Blue Devils hell

Suns shine on Stoudemire return



RICHARDSON

Pacquiao, Viloria highlight Elorde awards

E-mail: [illegible]

SATURDAY *Special*

Editor: Nestor U. Torre • Assistant Editor: [illegible]



LUCAS AND LUKE: Predictable sports movie done well.

Earnest basketball flick soars and scores

By Nestor Torre

A PASSIONATE COACH, an underdog team, unbeatable defending champions, and an adrenaline-charged showdown—these are elements present in every sports movie made, and the Jerry Bruckheimer-produced "Glory Road" is no exception.

[illegible]

Underdogs

[illegible]

"Glory Road" tells the story of the Texas Western basketball team, who won the 1966 NCAA tournament title from the heavily favored University of Kentucky Wildcats.

[illegible]

Not welcome

[illegible]

Overlooked

[illegible]









Tours, Leisure & Chow



Where to Stop Where to GO

A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

[illegible]

Authentic Japanese cuisine at Dusit Hotel

[illegible]





COFFEE IN A CAKE AT THE BELLEVUE HOTEL

[illegible]

GPHS, DLSU LIPA CONTRACT SIGNING



[illegible]

Basta Pasta at the Manila Pavilion Hotel

[illegible]



Affordable banquet packages at City Garden Hotel

[illegible]

People, Events & Products

2006 Annual Horse Show and Summer Activity Expo

[illegible]



LEIGH AND GABLE: Her beauty matched his masculine presence.

Memorable tandems heat up the movie screen

Lovably pretty

Near-perfect features

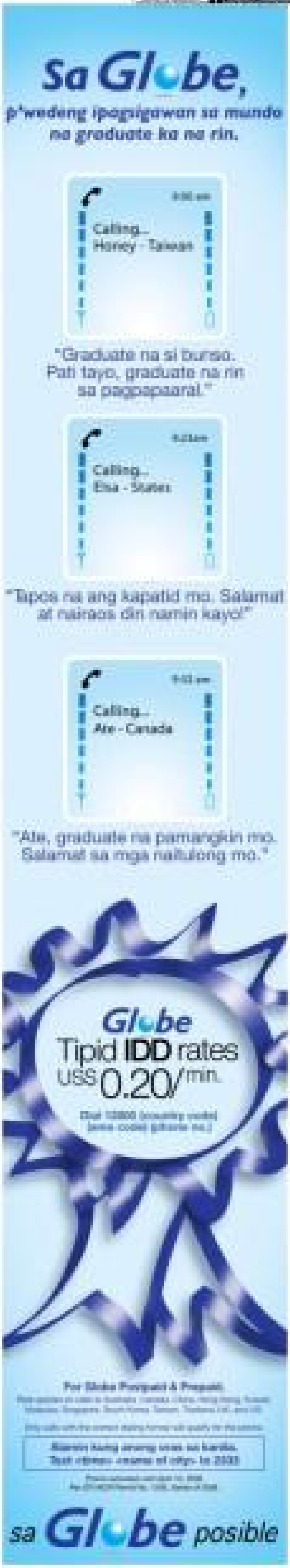


TAYLOR AND CLIFT: Sizzling chemistry

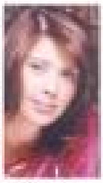
Batanes







Jurors should raise standards for kiddie singing tilts



FERNANDEZ

Batanes photo safari



STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

SATURDAY Special

Provocative themes, catchy titles capture viewers' imagination



PEREZ: Pepsi's beautiful woman in "Those Who Love Me Can Take the Train."

Social revolution

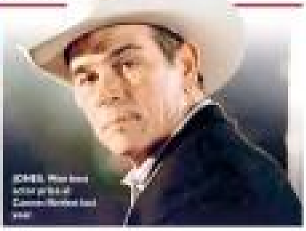
Newlywed couple

Young love

Star-struck

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo





A3

Lotus Pond

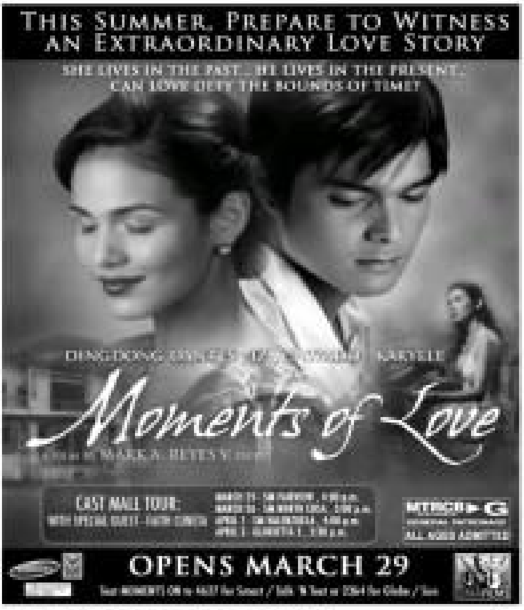
R. Valencia and S. Hassenk

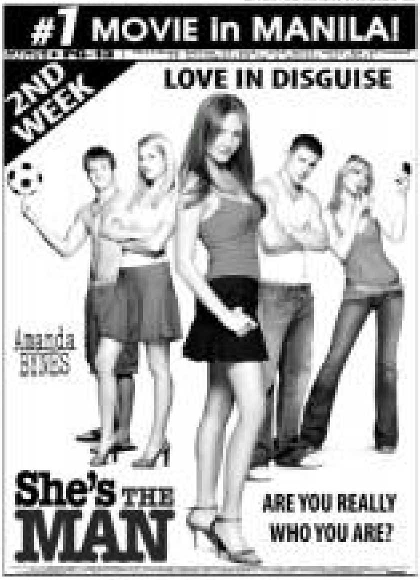
Recess

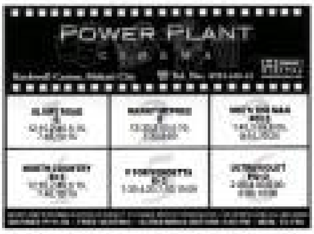
Cooperative

Mandatory

Provocative

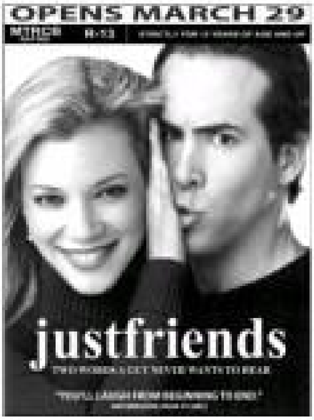

THIS SUMMER, PREPARE TO WITNESS
AN EXTRAORDINARY LOVE STORY
SHE LIVES IN THE PAST... HE LIVES IN THE PRESENT...
CAN LOVE DEFY THE BOUNDS OF TIME?
Moments of Love
CAST MALL TOUR:
OPENS MARCH 29
ALL AGES ADMITTED

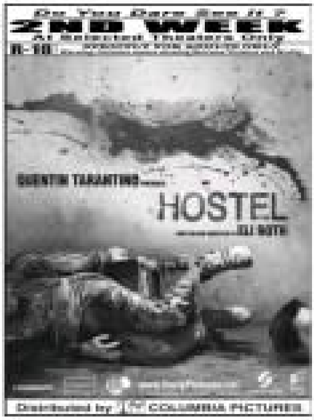

#1 MOVIE in MANILA!
2ND WEEK
LOVE IN DISGUISE
Amanda
She's THE MAN
ARE YOU REALLY
WHO YOU ARE?

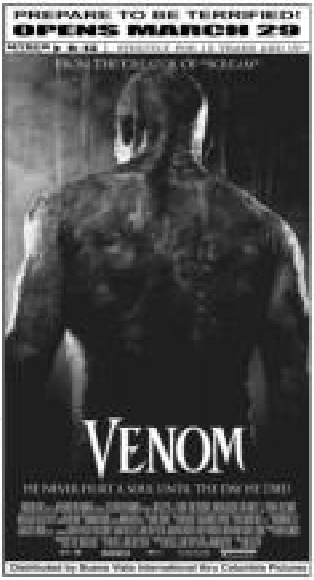

POWER PLANT

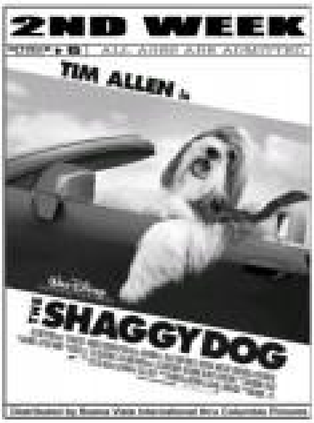

EASTWOOD
CINEMAS
GUARANTEED SEATS
GLORY ROAD
ULTRA VIOLET
SHAGGY DOG
NORTH COUNTRY
V FOR VENDETTA

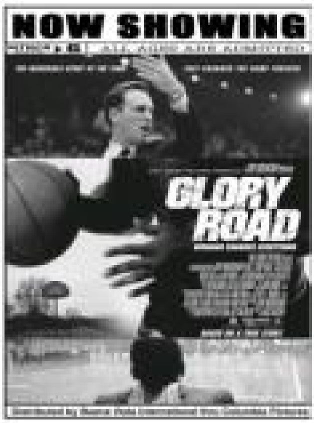

"DARING, RADICAL
AND REMARKABLE."
V FOR VENDETTA
NOW SHOWING

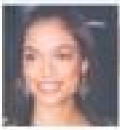

OPENS MARCH 29
justfriends


2ND WEEK
At Selected Theaters Only
HOSTEL
Distributed by: COLUMBIA PICTURES


PREPARE TO BE TERRIFIED!
OPENS MARCH 29
VENOM


2ND WEEK
TIM ALLEN
SHAGGY DOG


NOW SHOWING
GLORY ROAD




DAWSON AND WALKER, "Sophie" "Race" and "Eight Below," respectively.

Inspiring films hit the big screen

By Nestor U. Torre

SOME FILMS HAVE THE ABILITY to divert, and others the power to inspire. Here are some inspiring movies showing in or about to hit local theaters:

"Eight Below." The Bruce [illegible]

[illegible]

Rescue mission

[illegible]

"Glory Road," a recent box-office hit in the States, [illegible]

Tournament

[illegible]

Victory

[illegible]

Finally, don't miss "North Country," [illegible]

SATURDAY *Special*



By Rito P. Asilo

"Nanny McPhee"

D: Kirk Jones

S: Emma Thompson, Colin Firth, Angela Lansbury

AFTER THE 17th NANNY OF widower Cedric Brown's (Colin Firth) seven ill-mannered children wails, "They've eaten the baby!," the beleaguered father finally acknowledges it's time for drastic measures.

"North Country"

D: Niki Caro

S: Charlize Theron, Frances McDormand, Sissy Spacek, Sean Bean

Ali interviews Sharon

By [illegible]

SHARON CUNETA is one of the most-interviewed stars in show biz. She's been grilled so often on TV and in print that we seem to know everything about her—in fact, perhaps even more than some of us would care to find out!

Talk show

So, when we heard that Ali Sotto was interviewing Sharon on her ABC-5 talk show last Sunday, March 21, we were less than thrilled. Still, we made it a point to catch the show—and we're really glad we did, because it turned out that both Ali and Sharon had a lot more to offer than the usual Sharon Cuneta interview.

This was because, as the two women glowingly revealed, they were best friends when they were both starting out in show business—Sharon at 12, and Ali at 16. As best friends, of course, they knew much more about each other than the standard interviewer-interviewee tandem, and they proceeded to regale viewers with their choice recollections and insights.

They also brought the house down early in the interview when, in an inspired move, Ali "challenged" Sharon to do a hula number! The two friends proceeded to dance with grace, delight and sublime self-assurance.—What a spontaneous and unusual treat!

There was a lot of giggling and bantering, but Ali was also able to elicit some instructive insights from her stellar guest. Sharon revealed that her one major regret in life was not completing her education, and marrying too early in life—not necessarily in that order.

Achiever

She further shared that growing up wasn't easy for her, because her dad had so many kids. She loved all of her siblings, but it was tough getting her father's attention. She later reflects that this could explain why she's been such an achiever all her life—to gain her dad's approval! Well, as everybody knows, she's done much more than that, so the [illegible] was easy.

Sharon also reacted to people's comments about her added poundage, pointing out that she was 40 years old, for heaven's sakes, so it was rather insensitive for people to still expect her to look as svelte as a debutante!

Introspective moment

In an even more introspective moment, the Megastar revealed that she had some "private pains" that nobody knew about, and would be taking them to her grave.

Of course, viewers started speculating what they could possibly be—was she a lonely child, a battered wife—what? Oh, stop. It's supposed to be private, so please desist.

Well, that's how viewers are with their favorite celebrities—they want to know everything about them. So, if you want to know even more about Sharon, catch the second half of Ali's interview with her this coming Sunday at 11 p.m. This time around, Sharon will be coming in as [illegible] and the kids.



CUNETA: Growing up wasn't easy for the Megastar.



WAGNER, GILBERT AND BRIAN WIMMER. Star in Hallmark's family drama.

'Thicker Than Water'

MONTAGE

A TOUCHING FAMILY DRAMA COMES TO life on the Hallmark Channel at 9 p.m. on March 26. "Thicker Than Water" stars Melissa Gilbert ("Little House on the Prairie") as [illegible] lawyer Natalie Jones.

Her life takes an unexpected turn when her father dies, leading to a disturbing discovery: She finds a faded photograph of her beloved father as a young man in an affectionate embrace with popular rodeo trick rider, Maggie May [illegible].

Natalie soon learns that Maggie May was her first wife. Devastated, she tracks down the woman, only to find out that she has passed away. She then meets Maggie May's daughter, Josie (Lindsay Wagner), who holds the key to the bittersweet secrets Natalie wants to uncover.

Rudolf Golez

"A Moody Mozart Evening" features acclaimed pianist Rudolf Golez, on March 31 at the Francisco Santiago Hall in Makati. [illegible] Brandon, the "Listener's Guide," will provide explanations to enhance the audience's appreciation of the music. Repertoire includes Mozart sonatas, Chopin's Nocturne in C# minor [illegible], and [illegible] Liszt's Etude in A minor.

Movies on TV

On HBO, March 25 at 5 p.m., "Back to the Future," 11:20 p.m., "The Bone[illegible]."

On Cinemax, March 25 at 1 p.m., "Something to Talk About," March 26 at 9:30 p.m., "All the President's Men."

New 'Spongebob' episodes

Last March 17, "Spongebob Squarepants" returned to the Nickelodeon channel, much to the relief of its young fans. With new episodes like "My Pretty Friend's Wedding" and "SquidBob TentaclePants," the show offers more quirky fun and adventure.

To celebrate Spongebob's return, Nickelodeon is giving away exclusive Spongebob loot for five weeks in the channel's Watch n Win contest.

Voice seminar at Mr C's

Learn to prevent voice problems and maximize the capacity of your voice for performance in the special half-day seminar, "In Love with My Voice," at Ryan Cayabyab's The Music Studio today. Dr. Rebecca Pelicano and Ritchie Medina will conduct the seminar from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Call 844-[illegible] or email info@ryancayabyabmusicstudio.com.

'Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason'

HBO screens "Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason" at 8 p.m. on March 26. Renee Zellweger and Hugh Grant reprise their roles in the original hit film.

Kuh Ledesma and Bobby Soul

Kuh Ledesma and Bobby Soul of The Platters will reunite on April 1 as they perform yesterday's memorable romantic anthems together at the Mandarin's Captain's Bar. Call [illegible].

Kuh shares that the concert is her way of "keeping the Platters' music alive for future generations."

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corvil S. Marinimo

Gov't hikes '05 trade gap figure by 58%

INQUIRER MONITOR

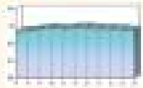
Economic Costs of Avian Flu (2006)



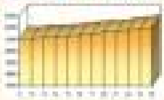
Investors dismayed by 'substantial' revision

THE PHILIPPINES RAISED ITS 2005 TRADE DEFICIT BY 58 PERcent yesterday in a revision that disappointed investors already dismayed by a doubling of the trade shortfall in January this year to $415 million.

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Shares close higher

JAPANESE INVESTORS' SURVEY

RP remains an attractive investment site

WHAT'S INSIDE

Sweat dreams

Breaktime



Conrado R. Banal III

GIR to breach $20-B mark in 2006, BSP official says

Level enough to cover four months worth of imports

Aboitiz unit ties up with SN Power

RP still an attractive investment site

Gov't . . .

Shares . . .

SEC okays foreign stock offering of Megaworld

Firm seeks to raise ₱4.8B in net proceeds

[illegible]

₱8-B SLEX rehab finally underway

Repair of Alabang viaduct expected to be completed in 2 years

Exporter revs up Subic trade



TEACHERS and students learn new skills with the help of Community Technology Learning Centers funded by Microsoft Philippines.

Making IT work for students

CORPORATE CITIZEN



SOME of the finalists to Microsoft Philippines' Innovative Teachers Leadership Awards

People, Events & Products

Unilab partners with CDO in helping malnourished children



ADB PRESIDENT, BRITISH AMBASSADOR HONORED

EFFIE NAÑAS DANCENTRE'S SUMMER PROGRAM



SYNGENTA MARKS 5TH YEAR WITH TREE-PLANTING ACTIVITY



Cartoonist group goes malling in SM Exhibit



HANDS ON MANILA BAGS DELL INNOVATION AWARD 2006

NEW BERKELEY VP





G&G LOGISTICS LAUNCHES SHIP WISE, SURE CARGO FOR 2006

Monterey sparked hope for street children

100 years of waking up to Kellogg's



PGA CARS, DON BOSCO SIGN MOA

Call centers:

From office basics to global impact



[illegible]

Mathematical theory

[illegible]

Accommodation

[illegible]

Personnel management

[illegible]

Technology

[illegible]

Call center dynamics

[illegible]

Call centers use a wide variety of different technologies to allow them to manage the large volumes of work that need to be managed by the call center. These technologies ensure that agents are kept as productive as possible, and that calls are queued and processed as quickly as possible, resulting in good levels of service.

Easing the arduous payroll task

[illegible]

CPI Outsourcing is a pioneer in the attendance and payroll outsourcing business. It has full outsourcing packages that meet the tedious and rigorous demands of call centers. It has met and exceeded the varied precise specifications of its call center clients.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Wanted: volcano watchers

YOU CAN BE A "VOLcano watcher" and help the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology detect early signs of volcanic eruptions.



Young people preferred

Different colors

Magma buildup

Sensors

Experts back in S. Leyte for study

Mari-Jo P. Ruiz: Outstanding teacher

EUREKA!



Queena N. Lee-Chua

Graph theory

Math instead of physics



Enjoy summer, prevent heat stroke

MEDICAL FILES

Like car radiator

First aid

Smoking ups risk of impotence

1 in 18

Preventable death



Business

SuperFerry cuts fares to spur local travel



PROPERTY

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang





Build houses and sell them for a profit by keeping construction costs down

Build 3 houses for P1.8M, sell for P7.5M

By Tessa R. Salazar

YOU CAN BUILD single detached houses for P1.875 million, and then sell them for P7.5 million.

[illegible]

Keeping costs down

[illegible]

Selling at a profit

[illegible]

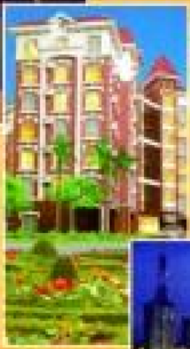
Structural soundness

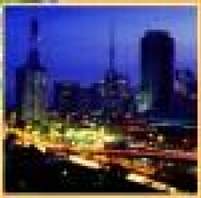
[illegible]

CROWN

GENTLE SKYLINES







Career and home life

is gently reconciled with CrownAsia's

tower solutions.

All CrownAsia condo projects are self-contained

communities, either in a tower cluster format or

as a stand alone edifice. CrownAsia's vertical

genius makes each condo unit space saving and

fashionably practical.

The CrownAsia trademark style and elegance

will always be a given.

Crown Presidio

SOON TO RISE

CROWNASIA

Your home of choice.

718-1400 to 02 / 718-1468 / 717-3006 to 07

visit www.crownasia.com.ph

CrownAsia unveils a New Manila signature project

The value system that honed Crown Asia to become the nation's biggest home builder in 10 years likewise shapes its ardent entry into condo development.



The immediate radius of the new Crown Presidio speaks of gracious surrounding enclaves, Greenhills, Horseshoe Village, Mariposa, C. Benitez. As such, CrownAsia's development of this new cluster project can only be a signature piece to stand out in the area. Genteel architecture, luxuriant landscaping and practical support amenities.



New Manila still retains the "rarified air" charm of the 50's, when prominent old Manila families left their war ravaged community to move to a new city, named after Manuel L. Quezon. The lot sizes then ranged from 1,000 square meters to quarter of a hectare. Tree-lined avenues became a landmark feature. Stately homes and mansions defined the area with an aura of wealth, prominence and privilege.



New Manila offers unbeatable advantages for the career focused individuals and young families. The Boney Serrano MRT station is a few blocks away, Greenhills Center, a short drive. A quick u-turn on EDSA and the Araneta Center, with its new upmarket shopping, dining and entertainment offerings is a time saving option. And down Boney Serrano, past White Plains, is Eastwood City.

GENTLESKYLINES™



CROWN
Presidio
New Manila

Your home becomes your bedroom.
The city, your living and dining room!

CROWN Presidio New Manila. City-centered living. Only CrownAsia's radar puts you right in the centre of Mega Manila: high style, high rise living in the heart of Quezon City reflecting San Francisco style, fashion and environmental sensitivity.

Flanked by major lifestyle destinations: Greenhills, Araneta Center and Libis. Technically on Main Avenue and just a skip away from Greenhills and Horseshoe! Only minutes away to EDSA with a convenient u-turn back to Araneta Center via Main Avenue or via Boney Serrano past White Plains to Libis.

Amenities to ease the stress. Community home theater, game room, event plaza, linear park, sundeck and meditation garden. There are even provisions for concessionaire-leased commercial areas / convenience shops, fitness gym, laundromat.

For property preview, please call:
701-5400 or 02 / 701-5401 / 717-5006 or 07
visit: www.crownasia.com.ph

CROWNASIA
Your home of choice.

Breaking through the clutter of Manila's concrete jungle.

The skyline of Mega Manila is changing so fast, the eyes have to gaze upward. CrownAsia, the maverick home builder, cuts through the clutter with cluster developments starting with PRESIDIO by the Bay. PRESIDIO has delighted buyers not only in the Philippines but also abroad, with the winning formula of being a self-contained community.



Wood a green building material

GREEN ARCHITRENDS



Philippine situation

The American experience

Innovation

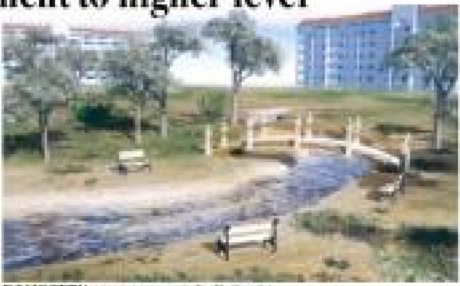
Environmental concerns



Builders' dilemma

Ecological certification

DMCI brings Taguig development to higher level



Central Square





Ultimate urban village

Positive feedbacks

Refreshing visualization



LADIES in their vibrant costumes add to Caribé's tropical-inspired launch.



TAKE a tour of The Islands to appreciate the beauty of island living.



A LANDSCAPED entrance welcomes future residents to the Caribbean-Floridian-inspired enclave of Caribé.



BRITTANY corporate officer Cynthia Javarez, Crown Asia president Jerry Navarrete and Brittany president Jing Serrano during the launch of Caribé at The Islands

CARIBÉ AT THE ISLANDS

Sprawling, single-story luxury

The best in island living

Enclaves

Open floor plan

Int'l convention recognizes RP construction firms

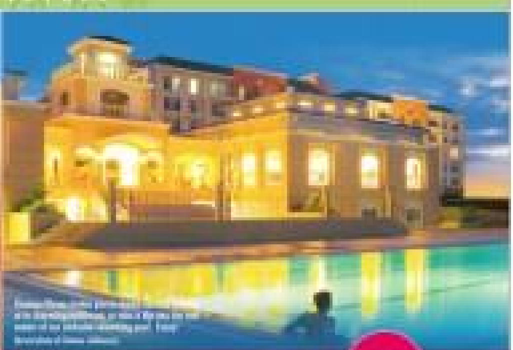
Awards



Laguna Tower marks another milestone

Event's significance









Super! Countdown

Super! 1

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation



summer Assault

Super! exclusive One-on-one with **Natalie Portman** page F1

Another Super! exclusive **G. Tongi** interviews Take the lead's page B1 **Dante Basco**

Catch this special **Summer Musical Caravan** page D6

Fashion tips from **Pepe Diokno** page D4





On a neutral state of mind





FOR FOLDED AND HUNG'S latest summer inspiration, they went to the barracks to get all the men with the slight intention of taking them to Brokeback Mountain, but instead took them on a cruise around Simon Island to party at the Hamptons.

[illegible]







EXCLUSIVELY FOR FILIPINOS. Havaianas Pinoy







FLIP FLOP ART. The window displays at Rustan's Makati



Make your own flip-flops

Jumpstart the summer season with custom-made Havaianas that you can truly call your own

SO MANY FLIP-FLOPS, SO LITTLE TIME. Since Havaianas was launched in the country a few years ago, the brand has gained a cult following. There are so many Filipino flip-flop fans (say that 10 times fast) that the Philippines has become the second-largest importer of Havaianas in Asia.

[illegible]

FASHION TIPS TO KEEP YOU ALIVE

Sedition-free fashion!

Tip #1. Never wear a shirt if you know someone else has it.

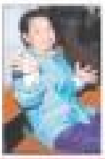
Tip#2. Everything is sedition material.

Tip #1. Pink is the only acceptable color

Avoid:







It's just bad.



Shop at:











Super 2



SUPER! EXCLUSIVE

Dante Basco takes the lead

He hasn't set foot in the country yet but Dante Basco is proud to be Pinoy

I FIRST MET DANTE BASCO AT a film festival soiree at the Arc Light on Sunset Boulevard a couple of years ago when I first moved to Los Angeles. [illegible]

[illegible]

Pinoy roots

[illegible]

Rufio—all grown up

[illegible]





KIDDIE SUMMER ON WHEELS

Remember your childhood days when you dreamed of sitting behind the wheel of a top-down with your date and driving down the boulevard for some intimate moments? Or taking off on a Formula 1 race car to compete with the world's top drivers in a Grand Prix championship in Monte Carlo or Daytona? Or simply cruising with your chums in a late-model sedan for the one of those youthful adventures?

Today's generation of kids can now live and enjoy vicariously their driving fantasies with a range of new high-tech toys related to automobiles and motor sports. As the summer season beckons, these toys provide thrilling, enjoyable and pleasant but safe outdoor activities to kids of all ages.

Here are some of the hottest toys for your "summer-on-wheels" adventures:

ROAD RATZ. Road Ratz is a line of remote-controlled vehicles for kids and adults that feature an easy operating system and a powerful suspension system. Among the latest remote-controlled models from RoadRatz are max cards Rally, Scaled Buggy, Formula One and the latest craze, Hummer.

CORGI. Corgi's model vehicles, once simply considered as toys for boys are now gaining popularity among adults and are highly sought-after in the expanding collectibles market. Some models, in mint condition and complete with boxes and which originally sold for a modest sum, are now fetching hundreds of dollars. Today, majority of Corgi cars, trucks and buses are produced as Limited Edition versions, which made every Corgi car a must have model.

TOMICA. Die-cast model fanatics are crazy about Tomica, one of the leading brands in die-cast car models — from vintage cars to sport cars, from small to large and bulky versions, from delivery trucks to motorcycles. Tomica offers a range of die-cast cars and play sets that feature high loops and moving levers to control the car. Tomica cars are recognized for setting the trend with their highest level of die-cast and cool and awesome design and tools.

FLYWHEELS. High speed, high-performance Flywheels car boasts an impressive array of die-cast cars accessories and play sets. Flywheels features 100 percent authentic licensed replicas in 1:55 scale of the top models of leading wheel tire and break manufacturers in the market. With a simple pull of a ripcord, Flywheels racers can zoom at over 300 scale miles per hour and jump to over 23 feet in the air.

Road Ratz, Corgi, Tomica and Flywheels toys are exclusively distributed by Ban Kee Trading, Inc. and are available at leading toy stores nationwide.





Dante Basco takes the lead

From page D1

[illegible]

Dante takes the lead

[illegible]

First family

[illegible]

The King of



Paolo R. Reyes

IF DANCE MUSIC WAS A religion, then Dutch spinmeister, DJ Tiësto, would be a demi-god to its faithful followers.

[illegible]

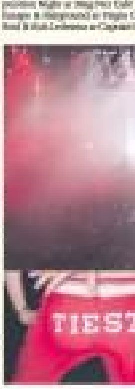
NBK's For the Love of House! @ Embassy Super Club, 10 p.m. tonight

[illegible]

Other Super! 24/7 events:

Mar. 25, Saturday

[illegible]







This Pinoy Hollywood actor talks about his roots, his current projects and his hopes of representing the Philippines more

Off the record



Dante tidbits

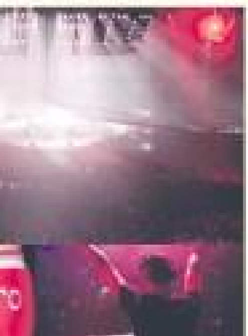
the Night Cometh



Mar. 26, Sunday

Mar. 27, Monday

Mar. 28, Tuesday



Mar. 29, Wednesday

Mar. 30, Thursday

Mar. 31, Friday


Double Happiness
caught by

Super

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation



Exotica for your ears

Or, sound advice for the download-it-now generation

Age against the machine



Gisela de la Paz

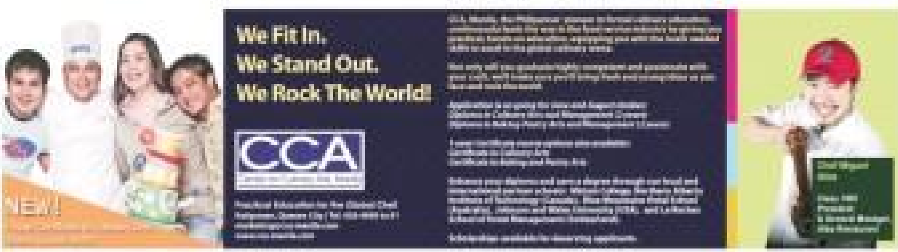
HOW DO YOU KNOW THE world is spinning properly on its axis? For music snobs and the similarly—...ly—obsessed, it's when a ... assortment of beats finally comes together, jumps out of the speakers, and bitchslaps you, well, in a good way. At least that's how I define it.

[illegible]

Quiet is the new loud

[illegible]







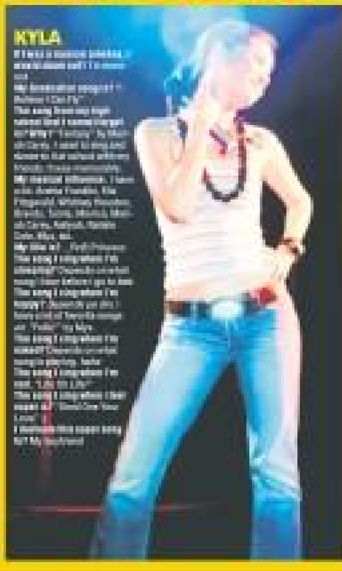
KYLA, FRENCHIE DY, K BROSAS and the Boxers, Kim Flores, Erik Santos. What do they have in common?

Spectacular, spectacular . .

The Backroom Super



FRENCHIE DY



KYLA



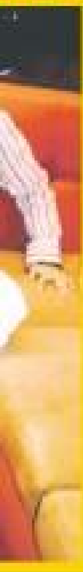
ERIK SANTOS



K AND THE BOXERS

Kyla, Frenchie, K and the Boxers, Kim and Erik Santos and the Summer Musical Caravan will be making a stop at a venue near you

r! Show





KIM FLORES





MARLEY AND MITZVAH: Hasidic reggae, anyone?



Exotica

[illegible]



Selecronica

[illegible]

Nice and noisy

[illegible]

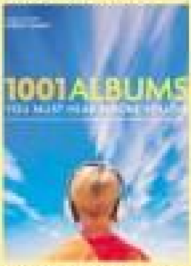
Hasidic harmonies

[illegible]

Audio galaxy

[illegible]

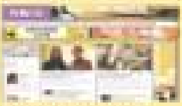
1. 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die



[illegible]

2. Pitchforkmedia.com

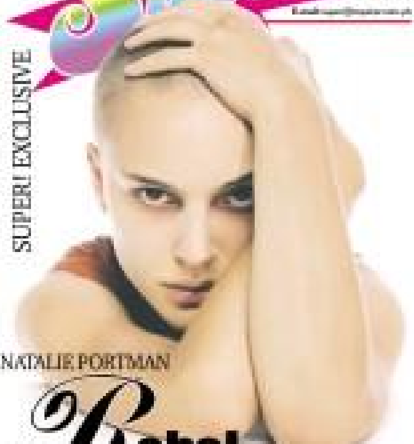
[illegible]



3. Popmatters.com

[illegible]

Super



SUPER! EXCLUSIVE

NATALIE PORTMAN

Rebel with a cause

By Alexis L. Lerias
Contributor

A TYRANNICAL GOVERNMENT. Political imprisonment. State-sanctioned curfews. An underground rebellion. Propaganda. Sedition. Oppression.

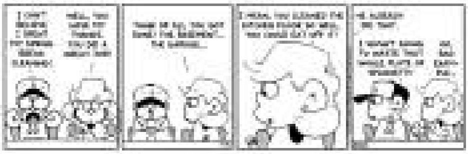
The movie is "V for Vendetta," and the setting is a futuristic England ruled by a fascist dictator. But with its volatile themes and strong political point of view, the film could just as well have been a spot-on allegory for the Philippines' own socio-political context: Spanish colonialization, foreign impositions, Martial Law-era human rights abuses, civilian revolution.

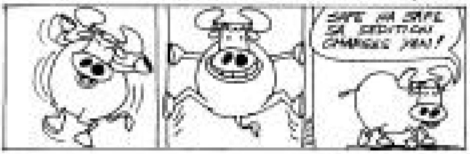
Set in the not-too-distant future, the film shows an economy living in fear of its government, which controls everything from the media to civil liberties. Amid the turmoil, a lone vigilante known simply as "V" attempts to overthrow the government using terrorist-like tactics.

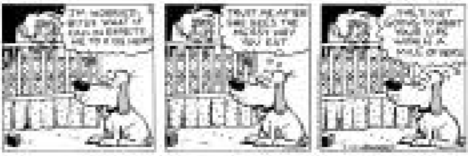
Natalie Portman, who plays V's reluctant ally and helps him further his agenda. To date, it's the most political film the acclaimed actress has taken on, and it represents yet another step in Portman's growth as one of Hollywood's more compelling young actresses.

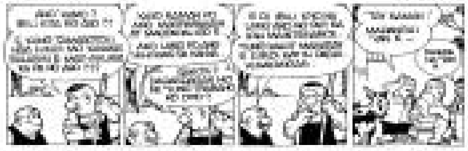
From the moment she caught the attention of audiences in 1994 in the "The Professional,"

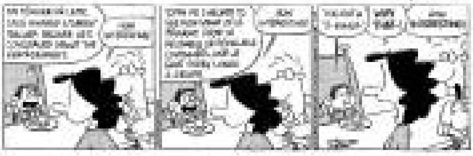
REBEL/F3

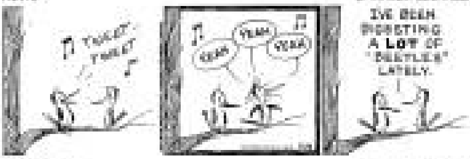


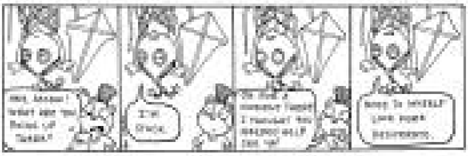




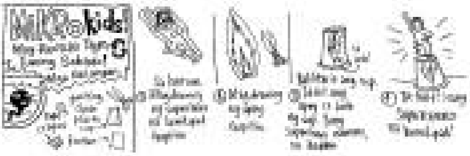


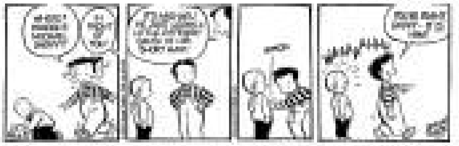


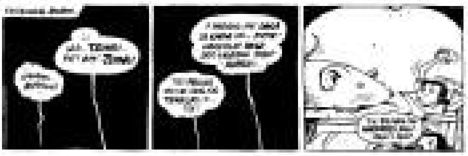


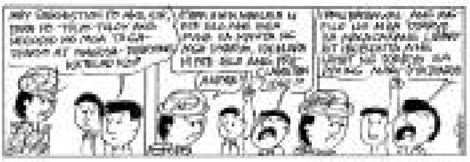








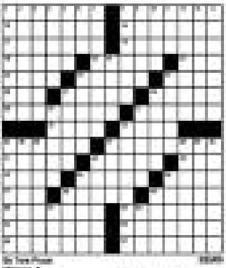


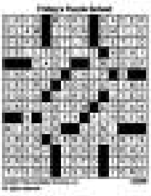




Horoscope

Daily Crossword







SCENES from "V for Vendetta"



V AND EVEY: With Hugo Weaving

Rebel with a cause

From page F1

[illegible]



"THE MOVIE has made me ask myself under what circumstances do I think I would be violent."

I found Venus! (And I wanna romance her.)

By Pepe Diokno



FROM left to right: Venuses of spoken word.

I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD admit this, but I now have Giselle Sanchez on my iPod. I have Karel Marquez, Ala de Leon and Loren Legarda, on it too! Oh and I can't forget I listen to Margarita Go-Singco Holmes.

WTF happened to me? Remixing Venus Volume 2.

Remixing Venus Volume 2, comes after Volume 1 (2006 ...). It features the words of women Kooky Tuason, sung by an array of women artists and not-so-famous (and one, two male.)

It's a mostly spoken word album, that means people recite the poems with music in the background. There's some great singing on it too—don't worry.

Woah.

Woah.



The tunes are cool, y'all.





World TB Day Observed

Today is the observance of World TB Day. Tuberculosis, more popularly known as TB, is still one of the leading causes of sickness and death in the Philippines. Worldwide, it is still on the list of global health emergencies by the World Health Organization.

Observing World TB Day started in 1982 on the centennial of Dr. Koch's discovery of the TB bacterium. This year would be the 124th year of that providential discovery. Before this, TB would sound the death knell to anyone who contracted the disease.

Frontline TB care providers are usually regarded as everyday heroes as they are able to save lives and foster a healthy lifestyle for people. Active in the Philippines today is a concerned group that advocates that childhood TB as a major health problem among Filipino children and has been actively conducting a community-based project designed to diagnose, treat and monitor childhood TB.

Spearheaded by the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association and through Pediatrica, Inc's Defeat Childhood TB Movement, this medical program has the strong support of the PITTS Foundation, Alliance for the Control of Tuberculosis in Children in Washington, DC, World Health Organization (WHO), the Department of Health and the local government units where this program is implemented.

The implementation of the pilot program in Santa Rosa, Laguna started in 2002, following the treatment guidelines set by the DOH (Directly Observed Treatment, Short Course or DOTS in children or DOTSCh). After two years of diligently finding and treating positive cases, the project was successfully completed last year with 90% treatment success rate.

Through all the program's experiences, it was duly noted that the success of the program is still specifically reliant on the same 5 elements that spells the success of adult DOTS - sustained political commitment, access to quality-assured TB detection materials and methods, proper case management conditions, uninterrupted supply of TB drugs, and reporting and recording that will enable future assessment, learning and replication. With the continuing support of the core group of participating sectors, the program may well be on its way to implementation nationwide. From the government's end, a DOH-issued Administrative Order (ATR) establishing a national program for a TB control program in children. Hopefully the successful implementation of the TB control program in Santa Rosa, Laguna, will be cascaded and replicated through support in training and availability of TB medications that will be ensured by the administrative order.